

The BAPTIST QUARTERLY

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Editorial

IN this issue and the next special attention is being devoted to the subject of the child and the Church. As we shall see in April, our 17th century fathers gave a certain amount of attention to this but speaking generally it is not one on which Baptists have made an outstanding contribution. Today it calls for urgent attention from several aspects, those of theology, pastoral care and evangelism, and these are, of course, interrelated. A commission appointed by the Baptist Union Council is hoping to produce a report on the subject during the current year. At the outset of its work this commission invited several scholars to address it and it is four of the papers thus given that we are publishing in the *Quarterly*. In the present issue Dr. R. E. Clements and Dr. G. R. Beasley-Murray deal with basic biblical issues. Dr. Beasley-Murray's paper appeared in *Foundations* in April, 1965, and we are grateful to the editor of that journal for allowing us to publish it also.

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In our last issue we drew attention to the excellent series of "Living Issues" booklets being issued from Church House. It is a special pleasure to return to this theme for the latest title to appear is *Writing Baptist History*. In it Dr. B. R. White emphasises the urgent need for the sound local histories and specialist monographs on which a major general history of the denomination must depend. He encourages "amateurs" to help in this, using the term "amateur" in a far from disparaging sense, and explains some of

the techniques which will enable them to strive after professional standards. He illustrates the need for work on local Baptist churches, districts and associations, on individuals and on doctrinal themes. He describes the kind of source materials to be searched for and how they can be harvested. There are people willing to help with such enterprises, and here too Dr. White's advice is clarity itself. This is a most helpful contribution to the furtherance of the objects for which our Society exists and members can help by making this booklet known and getting it into the hands that need it. Every Area Superintendent and Association Secretary should be armed with spare copies.

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Rev. Theo. F. Valentine, Secretary of the Particular Baptist Fund, is seeking to compile a history of the Fund and would be very glad to hear from anyone who knows of the whereabouts of papers relating to it. He would especially like to trace three missing volumes of the Fund's Minutes, 1803-13 (Nos. 7 and 8) and 1833-1838 (No. 12). His address is 16, Gloucester Road, Teddington, Middlesex. (Teddington Lock 3026.)

WHITLEY LECTURES 1966

DR. WILLIAMS'S LIBRARY, 14 GORDON SQUARE, W.C.1

Professor Glanmor Williams of the University College of Swansea will deliver four lectures on *The Reformation and Church History*.

WEDNESDAY, 19 JANUARY—

4.15 p.m. The Continental Reformers.

6.15 p.m. Tyndale and Bale.

WEDNESDAY, 26 JANUARY—

4.15 p.m. The Elizabethans.

6.15 p.m. Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

Light refreshments will be served at 5.30 p.m.

Those wishing to attend should notify the Secretary, Whitley Trust, c/o 14 Gordon Square, London, W.C.1.